

Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 AEC-11

OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20

IGA-02 NIC-01 EB-11 COME-00 TRSY-11 DRC-01 /210 W

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R 221401Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3299

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS ACCRA 2203

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PARM EAID GH UR UN

SUBJ: GHANA-SOVIET RELATIONS: DISARMAMENT, MILITARY BUDGETS
AND DEVELOPMENT

1. IN INTERVIEW WITH ACCRA-BASED "PRAVDA" CORRESPONDENT,
HEAD OF STATE AND CHAIRMAN GHANA'S RULING NATIONAL REDEMPTION
COUNCIL (NRC), COL. I.K. ACHEAMPONG, REPORTED BY GOVERNMENT-OWNED
PRESS AS HAVING SAID QTE GHANA FULLY SUPPORTS THE SOVIET PROPOSAL
ON A TEN-PERCENT REDUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS OF STATES THAT ARE
PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL TO USE PART OF THE
SAVED RESOURCES FOR THE REQUIREMENTS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.
END QTE.

2. CHAIRMAN CHARACTERIZED PROPOSAL AS AN EXCEPTIONALLY IMPORTANT
CONTRIBUTION TO WORLD PEACE AND SECURITY. HE ADDED THAT DEVELOP-
ING COUNTRIES WILL BE ABLE USE "LARGE RESOURCES" WHICH "MAY BE"
PLACED AT THEIR DISPOSAL FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT.

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3. STORY, DATELINED APRIL 17 IN MOSCOW, ALSO REPORTED ACHEAMPONG'S SUPPORT FOR SOVIET POLICY OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AND A REASSERTION GHANA'S CONTINUED ADHERENCE TO NON-ALIGNMENT AND POSITIVE NEUTRALITY. ACHEAMPONG TERMED SOVIET/GHANAIAI RELATIONS SINCE HIS 1972 COUP AS GOOD. CHAIRMAN ALSO NOTED THAT SOVIET UNION IS GHANA'S LARGEST TRADING PARTNER IN EASTERN EUROPE, ADDING THAT TRADE IS EXPANDING AND EXPRESSING BELIEF THAT PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE COOPERATION ARE "VERY BRIGHT."
HADSEL

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